

489 White House Statement on the Soviet Missile Sites in Cuba.
October 26, 1962

THE DEVELOPMENT of ballistic missile sites in Cuba continues at a rapid pace. Through the process of continued surveillance directed by the President, additional evidence has been acquired which clearly reflects that as of Thursday, October 25, definite buildup in these offensive missile sites continued to be made. The activity at these sites apparently is directed at achieving a full operational capability as soon as possible.

There is evidence that as of yesterday, October 25, considerable construction activity was being engaged in at the Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile sites. Bulldozers and cranes were observed as late as Thursday actively clearing new areas within the sites and improving the approach roads to the launch pads.

Since Tuesday October 23 missile related

activities have continued at the Medium Range Ballistic Missile sites resulting in progressive refinements at these facilities. For example, missiles were observed parked in the open on October 23. Surveillance on October 25 revealed that some of these same missiles have now been moved from their original parked positions. Cabling can be seen running from the missile-ready tents to power generators nearby.

In summary, there is no evidence to date indicating that there is any intention to dismantle or discontinue work on these missile sites. On the contrary the Soviets are rapidly continuing their construction of missile support and launch facilities, and serious attempts are under way to camouflage their efforts.

FORWARDED COPY FOLLOWS

Letter dated 26 October 1962 from the representative of the United States of America addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original text: English]
[27 October 1962]

I have the honour to transmit herewith information released by the Office of the President of the United States this afternoon concerning the continued construction of missile sites in Cuba and the new efforts to camouflage them.

I would appreciate it if you would circulate this letter and the information on this dangerous situation as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Adlai E. STEVENSON

Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations

STATEMENT

1. The development of ballistic missile sites in Cuba continues at a rapid pace. Through the process of continued surveillance, directed by the President, additional evidence has been acquired which clearly reflects that as of yesterday, 25 October, defensive build-ups in these offensive missile sites continued to be made.

2. The activity at these sites apparently is directed at achieving a full operational capacity as soon as possible.

3. There is evidence that as of 25 October, considerable construction activity was being engaged in at the intermediate range ballistic missile sites. Bulldozers and cranes were observed as late as yesterday actively clearing new areas within the sites and improving the approach roads to the launch pads.

4. Since 23 October, missile-related activities have continued at the medium range ballistic missile sites resulting in progressive refinements at these facilities. For example, missiles were observed parked in the open on 23 October. Surveillance on 25 October revealed that some of these same missiles have now moved from their original parked positions. Cabling can be seen running from missile-ready tents to powered generators nearby.

5. In summary, there is no evidence to date indicating that there is any intention to dismantle or discontinue work on these missile sites. On the contrary, the Soviets are rapidly continuing their construction of missile support and launch facilities and serious attempts are under way to camouflage their efforts.